

Dearborn. Transcending life's circumstances, Mr. Berry graduated in Fordson Junior College's (now Henry Ford Community College) inaugural class of 1940. He went on to earn a Bachelor's degree and ultimately a Juris Doctorate, becoming the first Muslim attorney in the state of Michigan in 1949.

With his law degree in hand, Mr. Berry embarked on a distinguished career in law, government and public service that continues to this day. Among his many significant accomplishments, Michael Berry served twenty years as the legal counsel to the United Auto Workers Local 600 (the UAW Local born out of the Hunger March and Battle of the Overpass, and which, at its zenith had more than 100,000 members and retirees).

Mr. Berry was also a longtime member of the Wayne County Road Commission, serving as Chairman for a period of ten years. During his tenure as Chairman, Michael Berry oversaw the completion of numerous infrastructure projects, not the least of which were substantial improvements to Detroit-Wayne County's Metropolitan Airport. Mr. Berry's contributions in this regard positioned the airport to become the national and international hub that it is today and resulted in the dedication of the Michael Berry International Terminal in 1974.

Given Mr. Berry's personal and professional accomplishments, you can understand why I consider myself extremely fortunate to have him as a close personal friend and to have benefited from his advice and insight over the years. I worked especially closely with Mr. Berry during the eight years he served as Chairman of the 16th District Democratic Party—a time that I recall fondly as being a particularly constructive and productive one.

The privilege of knowing people who are as decent and accomplished as Michael Berry is an aspect of public service that I enjoy greatly. The "Michael Berry Amphitheater" will inspire students for generations to pursue their full potential and ambitions. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in recognizing the lifetime achievements of Michael Berry, one of Dearborn's native sons.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE VALLEY ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE "GREEN STAR" PROGRAM

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Eagle Valley Alliance for Sustainability for bringing the "Green Star" program to Vail, Colorado, and Eagle County.

In an effort to educate and encourage local residents and businesses to develop environmentally sound practices, the Green Star program is improving air and water quality, reducing energy use and waste streams and providing environmental benefits to area communities. Vail's Green Star Chapter is the tenth program initiated nationwide and the first of its kind in Colorado. It is this progressive environmental leadership that I wish to highlight today.

On October 7, The Alliance was honored by the Colorado Department of Public Health and

Environment with its Environmental Achievement Award through the Environmental Leadership Program.

Founded in 1990, the Alaska-based Green Star Program encourages business owners and private residents to reduce waste, conserve energy and prevent pollution.

Through education, technical assistance and a nationally recognized award program, Green Star helps citizens become more environmentally sensitive without jeopardizing their budgets. Green Star standards demonstrate that waste reduction is not only environmentally responsible, but can also save money and help businesses attract customers.

Green Star Awards are given when organizations meet at least 12 of the 18 standards. Awards are given for general waste reduction, air quality improvement and reduction of air pollution. Businesses participate by educating employees, improving purchasing methods, controlling litter, reducing toxic usage, promoting water conservation and monitoring utility usage.

The Air Quality Award is Green Star's newest award, unveiled in 1999, focusing on outdoor air quality improvement activities. The standard encourages the reduction of air emissions through technical improvements, behavioral changes, and outreach and education activities. Through the improvement of equipment, better vehicle maintenance, supporting alternative transportation modes and education, air standards improve for all residents in a community.

Schools can also participate in the Green Star program. Through education on pollution prevention, recycling, composting, energy efficiency, and waste reduction and prevention, students can promote programs that protect our environment. Free trainings, workshops, and onsite consultations from Green Star experts help schools set standards in their area.

Events can earn Green Star recognition by reducing waste and recycling. With a goal of reducing the overall waste stream, efficiency is increased and a wide range of materials can be recycled. Green Star loans free bins for the length of events, encouraging reuse of cans, bottles, cardboard and paper.

Green Star's eco-friendly program was launched in the town of Vail, Eagle County and in partnership with the Environmental Committee for the Vail '99 World Championships in 1998.

Eagle County residents are actively working to have their residences certified as Green Star homes. Through a \$2.50 monthly purchase of wind power, homeowners can keep thousands of pounds of pollutants from entering the atmosphere each year.

As Colorado works to preserve and protect its pristine mountain ranges, treasured forests and spectacular wilderness areas, we applaud the residents of Vail and Eagle County for setting the standard in environmental education and conservation. I have enclosed an article from the Vail Daily newspaper about this effort.

[From the Vail Daily, Oct. 18, 2003]

Local Environmental Green Star Program
Recognized by State
(By Matt Zalaznick)

Patsy Batchelder says making your home environmentally friendly isn't very hard at all—you can recycle (just about anything), buy some wind power and not drive as often, among other things.

Batchelder's home in Vail's Potato Patch neighborhood has been certified by a local conservation group as one of the most environmentally friendly homes in the valley. And those certifications, called the "Green Star" program, have now been recognized by the state health department.

"I think it's something any household can achieve easily," Batchelder says. "I would definitely like to encourage others to do it."

The "Green Star" program is spearheaded by the Eagle Valley Alliance for Sustainability, which has been awarded an Environmental Achievement Award by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Environmental Leadership Program. The organization received the award at a ceremony Oct. 7 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

"Every year, I look forward to learning about these exciting and innovative projects undertaken by businesses and organizations throughout Colorado," said Douglas Benevento, executive director of the Health Department. "It is a privilege to recognize them for their commitment to business practices that improve air and water quality, reduce energy use and waste streams, and provide benefit for dozens of communities."

The local Green Star program is a points-based program that encourages Eagle County homeowners to reduce waste and improve energy efficiency at home on a points basis, says Adam Palmer, of the Eagle Valley Alliance for Sustainability.

Enrollees must meet 12 of 17 requirements and they receive technical assistance, an energy audit, a video tape of a walkthrough with an infra-red camera that pinpoints heat loss areas in the home, a certificate and decals for a \$50 enrollment fee. The goal of the program is for homeowners to become more aware of the how their homes and lifestyles affect environment—and also save money, Palmer says.

"In the households we've certified so far, we've found some unexpected sources of energy loss," Palmer says. "It provides a foundation on which to guide future conservation actions, rather than wasting time and money on something that may not provide a significant return."

Matt Scherr, who owns a home in Minturn, says he joined the program because he was frequently angered by the lax environmental policies of governments and large businesses. "I first have to commit myself to things I'm wanting from others," says Scherr, whose home is going through the certification process.

The Green Star program runs the gamut from installing better insulation and windows to re-using plastic bags.

"We're avid Ziploc bag washers," Scherr says. "We also re-use plastic water bottles. I bought a case and have been using the bottles for the last year."

Scherr says he is installing additional insulation in his attic and putting in double-paned windows. He also closes off rooms he doesn't use very often and only turns on heat in those rooms when he is going to use them.

One of the Green Star program requirements is that the home gets part of its energy needs from renewable sources. Residents can take part in the Wind Power Pioneers program available from Holy Cross Energy to meet the requirement, Palmer says.

"For as little as \$2.50 per month, you can get part of your energy from the wind and keep thousands of pounds of pollution out of the air each year," says Palmer.

Eagle resident John Gitchell, who is a member of the Eagle Valley Alliance for Sustainability's board, is also getting his home Green Star certified.

"The practical piece of it is we're going to improve our energy efficiency this year,"

Gitchell says. "But this is kind of a lifestyle audit in a way."

The Green Star program also measures how much a family drives and flies, what conservations call an "ecological footprint."

"Both my wife and I work and live in the same town, so we got some points for points for that," Gitchell says.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SPC.
DONALD LAVERNE WHEELER,
JR. OF CONCORD, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a soldier from my neighborhood who was killed in Iraq. He was at his core a true American patriot. SPC. Donald Laverne Wheeler, Jr., DJ, as he was known to his friends, made the ultimate sacrifice for this country at age 22 years.

DJ was killed in Tikrit, Iraq on October 13, 2003 when his armored vehicle, on which he was the gunner, was attacked with a rocket-propelled grenade. Wheeler was searching for a possible improvised explosive device when his unit came under attack.

DJ joined the Army in November 2001, just after the 9/11 attacks, and said he wanted to fight against the evil. He felt it was his duty as an American. He was assigned to the U.S. Army's A Company, 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, TX, and was sent to Iraq in March 2003.

His family has a history of military service. He is named after his uncle killed in the Korean War. His grandfather, one of his inspirations, was a World War II veteran.

DJ graduated from Lumen Christi High School in Jackson in 1999 where he was an offensive lineman on the team that made the regional finals. His coach described him as a good, solid, hardworking kid. More than this, however, DJ's spirit would fill any room he was in. He was nicknamed "Sunshine" by one of sergeants because he towered over his friends and was always smiling. Those who knew him recalled his sense of humor, his ability to make you laugh, and his generous spirit. While in Iraq he frequently wrote home asking for dollar bills and candy to hand out to Iraqi children.

What is so admirable about this individual is his dedication and the support from his family in Concord, MI. They deserve to be honored as much as he. DJ's parents, Donald and Mary Catherine Wheeler, fully support the actions in Iraq and the President. Even when tragedy touched their own lives and the lives of DJ's three sisters and eight brothers, this family calls on us to finish the work in Iraq that DJ helped begin.

Words cannot express the gratitude of a country. I honor this man today, and his family, for the great irreplaceable gift they have given our country, our ideals and our freedom.

HONORING ZION MISSIONARY
BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring to your attention that on September 19, 2003 the Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Saginaw, MI, celebrated their 135th year of praising and serving the Lord. The Church commemorated this milestone with a series of festivities, which included an old fashion worship service and play depicting the Church's history. The Church will conclude the celebration in December with a musical and All States Day.

Psalms 48:1-2 states "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in his holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King." Zion Missionary Baptist Church was organized in 1868 with a membership of fifty. The Church family has grown considerably over the last 135 years. They have been blessed with eight different pastors, each one expressing a desire to see the church grow spiritually and physically. The most noted of these leaders is Reverend Roosevelt Austin, Sr., he became pastor in 1956, at a time when the Church was experiencing financial difficulty. Through prayer and perseverance, Reverend Austin balanced the Church books, and inspired the Church members to pledge toward a new building and expanded educational facility. Reverend Austin remained Pastor of Zion for 44 years, and at retirement the Church debt was paid in full. The Lord continued to send great leaders to Zion, in May of 2001 a young minister by the name of Reverend Rodrick Smith from Shreveport, LA answered the call, he was ordained by Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Benton, LA in 1993. Under the direction of Reverend Smith the Church is continuing to expand and build upon the name of the Lord. Zion Missionary Baptist Church currently has 650 faithful followers of Christ. The Church thrives on the premise that the Holy Spirit and the Word of God should guide them, and the Pastor and Official Staff should work together in complete harmony. This firm belief has brought this Church through many trials. Zion Missionary Baptist Church is a dynamic force for the public good. They have consistently made a difference in the Saginaw area.

The inspiration for living by Christian ideals is repeated again and again in the lives of the ministers and congregation of this Church. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I ask that my colleagues in the 108th Congress join me in saluting Zion Missionary Baptist Church for 135 years of celebrating and spreading the word of the Lord to the community of Saginaw, MI.

FREE TRADE IS FAIR TRADE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, the following editorial from the October 19, 2003, edition of

the Omaha World-Herald expresses support for greater efforts to reach trade agreements that reduce tariffs and non-tariff barriers imposed against American exports. The phrase "fair trade" is often inaccurately counterposed against the phrase "free-trade." So-call free trade agreements should always be constructed to be fair to American business and farm enterprises and to exporters.

ADAPTING TO CHANGE

A demonstration in Lincoln last weekend expressed strong opposition to free trade. The rally was part of a national "fair trade" campaign critical of the North American Free Trade Agreement and of a planned Free Trade Area of the Americas.

The fact remains, though, that a free-enterprise economy such as the United States' functions best when it is shorn, for the most part, of artificial constraints such as tariffs and quotas. Opening up a country to trade promotes efficiency, reduces inflationary pressures and generates new opportunities in multiple directions.

A protectionist system stifles those crucial goals. Studies by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have long pointed out that the countries that have experienced the greatest economic growth have been those that have embraced open markets and eschewed protectionism.

The anti-free-trade claims also offer illusory promises involving job security. Protectionism tidily promises to lock in the economic status quo. Ultimately, however, it lacks the power to ward off economic disruption. (The same holds true for any trading system; change is unavoidable.)

No wonder the loss of jobs at an automotive rubber-hose plant in Lincoln (as Goodyear shifts some of its production to Mexico) spurs an outcry among some residents. It's unrealistic, though, to imagine that the "fair trade" agenda provides a solution.

The fair-trade movement stresses, for example, that it is necessary to sharply ratchet up wages in developing countries so that the differential with U.S. pay rates can be greatly narrowed. Short of waving a magic wand, though, it's hard to see how that can be accomplished.

U.S. employment in traditional industry, such as steel or textiles, has declined for decades not as the result of any malevolent free-trade conspiracy but because of productivity gains and fundamental market forces—the signals sent by the decisions of autonomous companies and consumers, as well as a serious overcapacity in supply and, in the case of steel, extraordinary pension costs.

The prescriptions of anti-free-trade organizers cannot erase those basic economic realities.

The demonstrators in Lincoln took particular aim at the North American Free Trade Agreement. Mexico, however, is establishing ever-greater economic links to Nebraska. Mexico is now the state's No. 2 foreign export market, exceeded only by Canada.

In recent years, Nebraska's exports to Mexico have increased far more than the state's exports to any other nation. In 2000, the state's exports to Mexico totaled \$266 million. In 2002, they totaled \$465 million.

Free trade does not promise an economic utopia. In fact, a free market by definition means that a society will face a certain degree of economic change—job losses, but also new opportunities. The proponents of "fair trade," in contrast, exaggerate the ability of their ideas to cocoon the U.S. economy from the marketplace.

Change is inevitable. A free-market system, bolstered by open trade, best encourages the dynamism and flexibility that enable a national economy to prosper.